23: Shabad N-4 (no date) 1951 Rl Soviet Union Rl
Abchas-RI 2
Adshar RI 4

Tkvarcheli, which developed in the 1930's has overtaken the older Tkibuli as the principal coal-mining center of the Georgian SSR and supplies coking coal to the Rustavi steel mills.

ADZHAR AUTONOMOUS SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC
Capital, Batumi; area, 1,100, population, 195,000

The Adzhar Autonomous SSR or Adzharistan lies in the southwestern corner of the Georgian SSR, between the Black Sea and the Turkey-USSR frontier. Its basic Adzhar population consists of Georgians who became Moslems under previous Turkish rule. The region is generally mountainous and has a humid subtropical climate and a yearly rainfall of about 100 inches. The inhabitants of the higher, forested inland section are engaged principally in livestock rearing, lumbering, and tobacco growing and are poorly supplied with transportation routes. The narrow littoral is the most important area of Adzharistan. Here the subtropical climate favors such important crops as tea, tangerines, lemons, oranges, grapefruit, tung and camphor woods, bamboo, and so forth. Adzharistan is the principal USSR producer of tea and citrus fruits. Many tourist and seaside resorts are scattered along the coast, which is served by the railroad from Tbilisi and Baku. Crude oil and kerosene pipe lines from Baku terminate at Batumi, the capital and industrial center of the republic. A hydroelectric station built on the Adzharis-Tskhali River, east of Batumi, supplies power for the industries.

Batumi is the terminus of the Transcaucasian Railroad and one of the principal petroleum-loading ports of the USSR. Crude oil, which is piped from Baku, is processed in several cracking plants. It has an iron foundry, a tea-picking-machinery plant, tobacco factories and clothing mills. North of the city are botanical gardens where flora of the humid subtropical zone are grown. Near by extend large plantations of tea, tobacco, and citrus fruits.

SOUTH OSSETIAN AUTONOMOUS OBLAST
Capital, Stalinir; area, 1,500, population, 120,000

The South Ossetian Autonomous Oblast (Russian, *Yugo-Osetinskaya Avtonomnaya Oblast'*) is the southern portion of the Ossetian domain, in the central Greater Caucasus, of which the northern section is constituted into the North Ossetian Autonomous SSR within the Russian SFSR. It is situated on the southern slopes of the Greater Caucasus and watered mainly by the Liakhvi River. The population is 69 percent